

continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent application No. 09/473,510, filed December 28, 1999 and each of the following provisional applications under 37 CFR §1.78: U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/114,048, filed on December 28, 1998; U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/134,613, filed on May 18, 1999; U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/143,476, filed on July 12, 1999; U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/143,359, filed on July 12, 1999, and U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/170,997, filed on December 14, 1999; all of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.—

Listing of the Claims:

Cancel claims 1 to 78.

Add claim 79 to 89 as follows:

79. (New) A ductal access device for accessing a breast duct and collecting cellular material from within the duct, said device comprising;

an elongated accessing member having a distal end, a proximal end, and an internal lumen extending between said proximal and distal ends, said distal end including a port in liquid communication with the internal lumen and said proximal end including an opening for delivering lavage fluid within the breast duct;

an elongated guide member for extending through said internal lumen for positioning a portion of the elongated accessing member in the breast duct.

80. (New) The device according to claim 79 wherein said port is for the infusion or withdrawal of lavage fluid.

81. (New) The device according to claim 79 wherein said port is connected to a fluid collection device

82. (New) The device according to claim 81 wherein said collection device is a syringe.

83. (New) A method for lavaging a human breast duct, said method comprising;

inserting the distal end of a catheter having an internal lumen through a ductal orifice and into the distal lumen of a duct or ductal network;

infusing lavage fluid into the duct or ductal network through said internal lumen of said catheter;

withdrawing the lavage fluid and substances borne by the lavage fluid from the duct or ductal network through said lumen of said catheter.

84. (New) The method according to claim 83 wherein the step of infusing the lavage fluid includes the step of applying a positive infusion pressure within the internal lumen.

85. (New) The method according to claim 84 wherein the positive pressure is applied by a syringe.

86. (New) The method of claim 83 wherein the step of withdrawing the lavage fluid and substances includes the step of applying negative pressure within the internal lumen.

87. (New) The method according to claim 86 wherein the negative pressure is applied by a collection device.

88. (New) The method according to claim 87 wherein the collection device is a syringe.

89. (New) The method according to claim 83 wherein the method further includes the step of externally massaging the breast so that fluid and substances are forced in the direction of the catheter.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-78 were originally pending in this application and have now been canceled. Claims 79-89 have been added and are now pending. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification, specifically from pages 22 to 24, and Figures 10-12. No new matter has been added. Entry of this amendment prior to examination is requested. Applicant asks that all claims be examined and allowed.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or